

# Wisconsin State Legislature

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## Joint Committee on Finance *100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY 1911 - 2011*

### MEMORANDUM

To: Members  
Joint Committee on Finance

From: Senator Alberta Darling  
Representative Robin Vos

Date: November 17, 2011

Re: 14-Day Passive Review Approval – DNR

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m), Stats., attached is a 14-day passive review request from the Department of Natural Resources, received on November 17, 2011.

Please review the material and notify **Senator Darling** or **Representative Vos** no later than **Wednesday, December 7, 2011** if you have any concerns about the request or if you would like the Committee to meet formally to consider it.

Also, please contact us if you need further information.

Attachments

AB:RV;jm

State of Wisconsin  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
101 S. Webster Street  
Box 7921  
Madison WI 53707-7921

Scott Walker, Governor  
Cathy Stepp, Secretary  
Telephone 608-266-2621  
FAX 608-267-3579  
TTY Access via relay - 711



November 17, 2011

The Honorable Alberta Darling, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
Room 317 East, State Capitol  
PO Box 7882  
Madison WI 53707-7882

The Honorable Robin Vos, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Finance  
Room 309 East, State Capitol  
PO Box 8953  
Madison WI 53708-8953

Dear Senator Darling and Representative Vos:

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m), Wis. Stats., the Department is notifying you as co-chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance of the use of Stewardship Program funds in excess of \$250,000. These funds will be provided through the Recreational Boating Facility (RBF) grant program. Effective October 27, 2007, RBF grants are funded with Stewardship Program moneys. The City of Oshkosh has requested \$644,952.00 for their project to create transient boat docking facilities in the City Center River Walk area. The proposed grant amount represents 41.5% of the estimated total project costs. The project is located on the Fox River, City of Oshkosh, Winnebago County.

The City Center area was constructed in 1969. It included a concrete bulkhead extending from Jackson Street to North Main Street, public walkways with overlook step areas, and boat dockage connected to the bulkhead. Over the past 41 years, the concrete bulkhead and boat dockage have been repaired, replaced, and in some cases removed altogether. Deterioration has advanced to the point of unsafe and unusable conditions for the public and for boaters. Replacement of the concrete bulkhead and the addition of new boat docks will provide safe docking and travel ways for the boating community to access upland destinations including downtown Oshkosh, Riverside Park and the Leach Amphitheatre, the Marion Pearl Redevelopment area, the University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, the WIOASH State Trail, and the Oshkosh Convention Center.

As provided in s. 23.0917(6m)(a), Wis. Stats., if the Department does not receive notification of the scheduling of a hearing from either of the Joint Committee on Finance co-chairpersons within 14 working days from today, the Department will award this grant.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cathy Stepp

C: Julie Sauer, CAES Div Administrator  
Kurt Thiede, Lands Div Administrator  
Mary Rose Teves, Director, CFA Bureau

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NOV 17 2011

BY: St. Finance



# CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM

State of Wisconsin

**DATE:** November 17, 2011

**TO:** Members, Joint Committee on Finance

**FROM:** Cathy Stepp, Secretary

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FUNDS GREATER THAN \$250,000**

Pursuant to s. 23.0917(6m)(a) and (c), Wis. Stats., the Department is notifying you of the use of Stewardship Program funds in excess of \$250,000. These funds will be provided through the Recreational Boating Facility (RBF) grant program. Effective October 27, 2007, RBF grants are funded with Stewardship Program moneys. The City of Oshkosh has requested \$644,952.00 for their project to create transient boat docking facilities in the City Center River Walk area. The proposed grant amount represents 41.5% of the estimated total project costs. The Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program is funded under s. 20.866(2)(a), Wis. Stats. Project details are listed below:

<b>Project Sponsor</b>	City of Oshkosh
<b>Grant Sub-Program:</b>	Recreational Boating Facilities (no land is being acquired)
<b>Financial Information:</b>	See page 2

## I. PROJECT DETAILS

**Location:** The City Center area is located along the north shore of the Fox River between Jackson Street and North Main Street, directly in the heart of the central section of the city.

### Project Goals:

- Improve public waterfront access on the Fox River.
- Provide transient boat docks for the public.
- Implement comprehensive long-range "Fox River Corridor Riverwalk Plan" (2005)
- Revitalize and extend a segment of the city's Riverwalk to include city-wide pedestrian and bicycle pathway east to Lake Winnebago and west to join the WIOASH State Trail (75-mile multi-county trail).
- Improve City Center area to connect riverside parks, downtown, redevelopment areas and the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

**Project Description:** Conceptual development plans for the Fox River Corridor Riverwalk and Transient Public Boating Facilities are provided in Appendix B. The overall development plan includes:

- Shoreline improvements including removal of the existing severely deteriorated concrete bulkhead cap and boat dockage, replacement with new concrete bulkhead cap, construction of new pile-supported boardwalk sections, and twenty (20) new pile supported piers for transient boaters looking to dock their boat.
- Subgrade improvements and construction of paved Riverwalk.
- Landscaping, lighting, benches, and other shoreline amenities.

Replacement of the concrete bulkhead and the addition of new piers will provide safe docking and travel ways for the boating community to access upland destinations including downtown Oshkosh, Riverside Park, the Leach Amphitheatre, the Marion/Pearl redevelopment area, the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Campus, the WIOASH State Trail, and the Oshkosh Convention Center.

**Public Uses:** Boating traffic on the Fox River in the downtown area is significant, and the lack of docking facilities is apparent. Ongoing improvements to the Fox River waterfront have created numerous public destinations for Oshkosh residents and visitors. The City considers the downtown area to be a critical component to the overall economic future of the City. This City has made the following investments:

- Main Street Renovation (2010) -- \$6 M
- Convention Center Renovation (2008) -- \$3 M
- Leach Amphitheatre Construction (2005) -- \$4 M

Throughout the summer, there are weekly musical performances at the Leach Amphitheatre (Waterfest). Waterfest alone attracts over 60,000 people to the river during its 17-week performance period. This attraction has drawn boaters to the downtown in numbers far exceeding existing docking capacity. Riverside Park is always open for the public to enjoy leisure activities including biking, walking, picnics, and fishing. Recent renovations to the Oshkosh Convention Center and downtown Main Street are attracting visitors and bringing new life to the downtown area. The Riverwalk and boat docks will be a critical link in connecting the waterfront to upland destinations and the WIOWASH State Trail.

**Property Management:** The City of Oshkosh's continuing commitment to redevelopment and improvement of the Fox River waterfront has created a public amenity and destination location for both residents and visitors. The intent of the docking facilities proposed in this project is to further enhance recreational boating along the Fox River and provide a safe means for boaters to dock and access upland destinations.

The City of Oshkosh Parks Department will manage the Riverwalk and Transient Docking Facilities along the City Center area.

**Partnerships:**


- City of Oshkosh is responsible for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the entire Riverwalk area and its associated facilities, including the City Center transient docks.
- City Center Associates, LLC, provides the land that the City Center transient docks and Riverwalk will be built on.
- Oshkosh West and Oshkosh North High Schools' agricultural departments will assist with the planting and long-term landscaping management.
- The Oshkosh Boating Club provides guidance and consultation concerning docking design and boat tie-up equipment selection and installation.
- Department of Natural Resources provides the \$644,952 RBF grant.

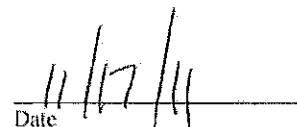
II. PROJECT FINANCES:	Total Project Costs	\$1,554,100
	City of Oshkosh Funds	\$909,148
	DNR RBF Grant - 41.5%	\$644,952

**III. RECOMMENDED:**

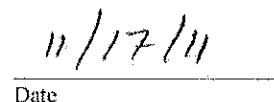
  
Mary Rose Teves, Director, Bureau of Community Financial Assistance

  
Date

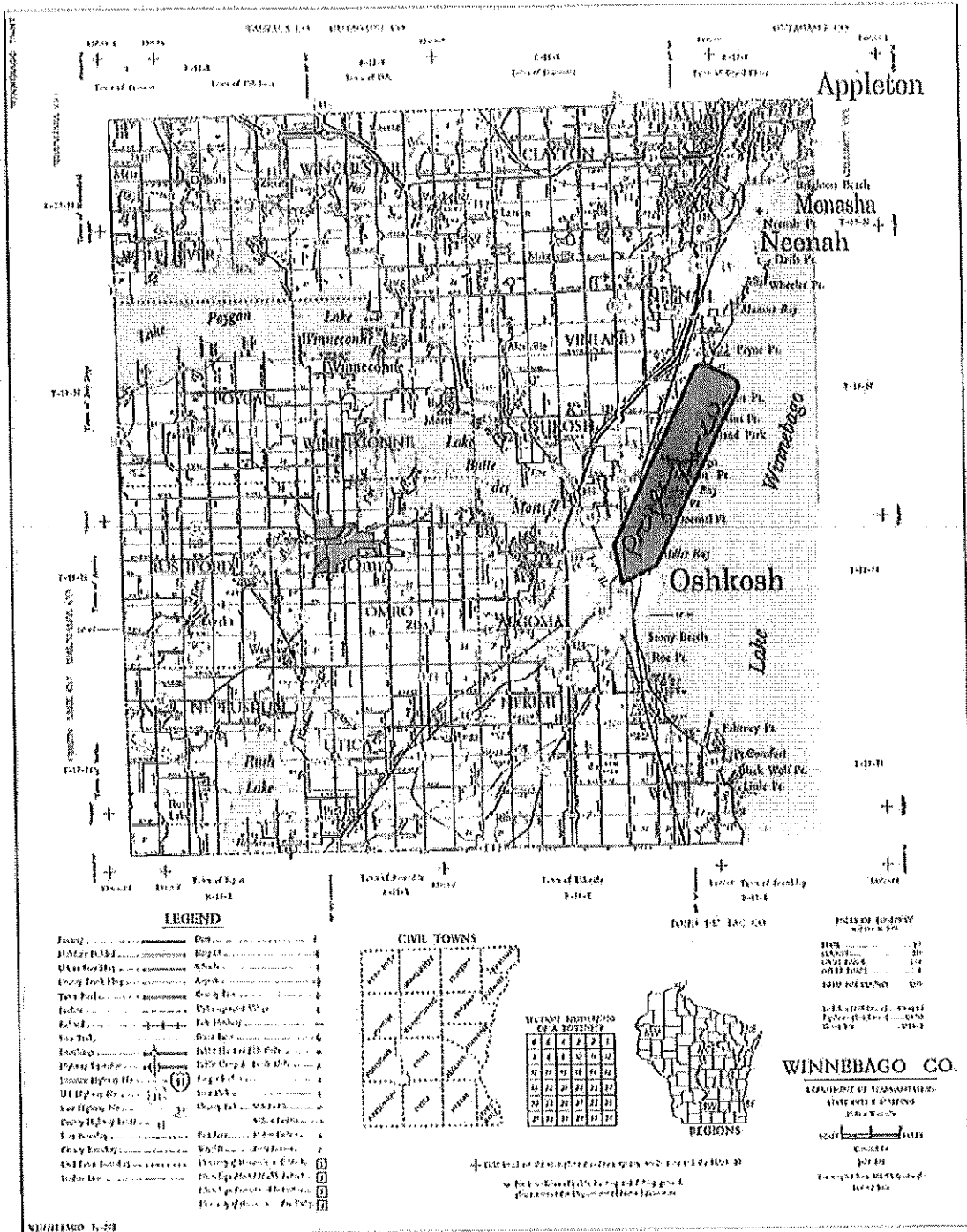
  
Julie Suur, Administrator, Customer and Employee Services Division

  
Date

  
Kurt Thiede, Administrator, Lands Division

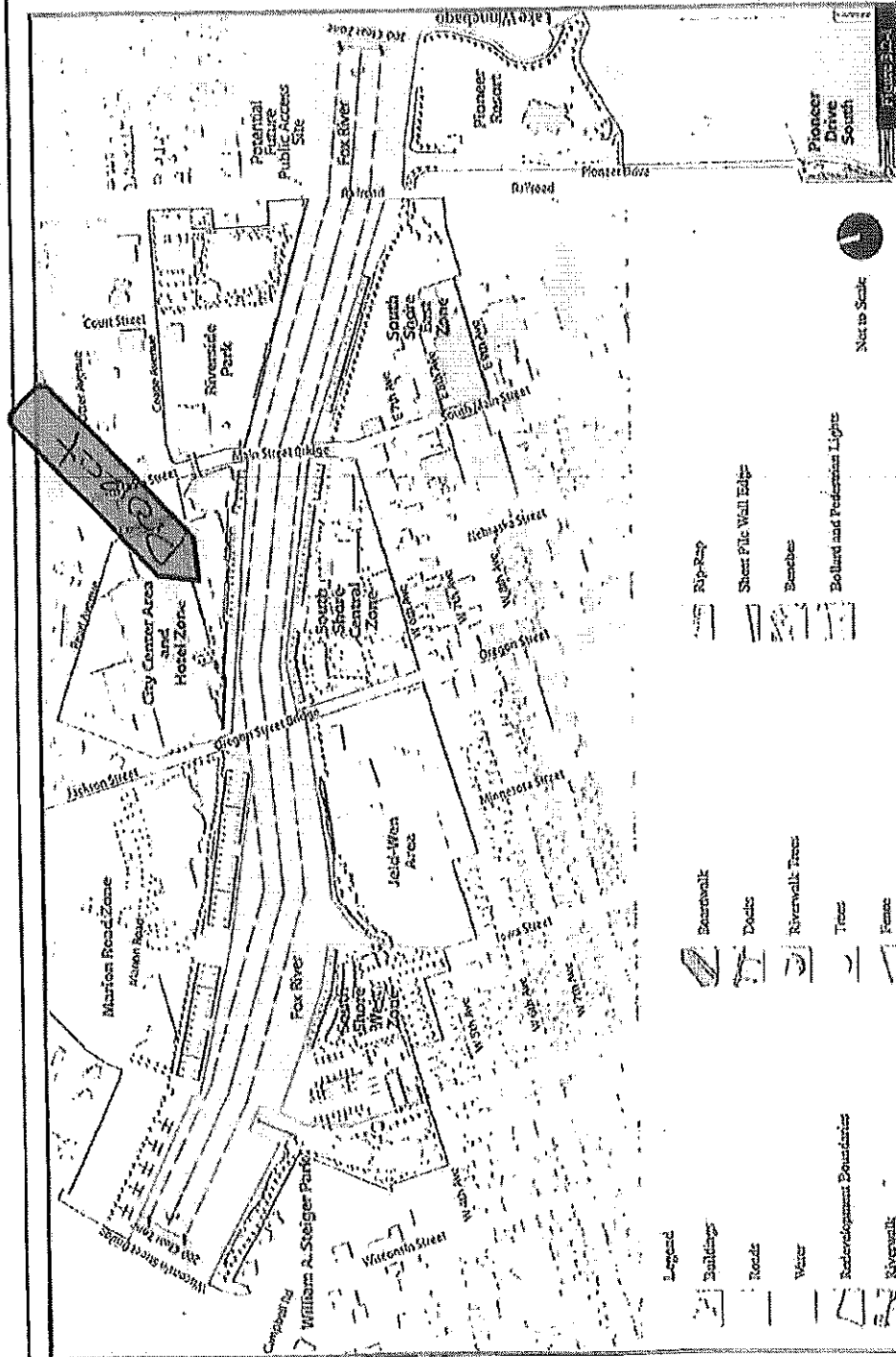
  
Date

# APPENDIX A

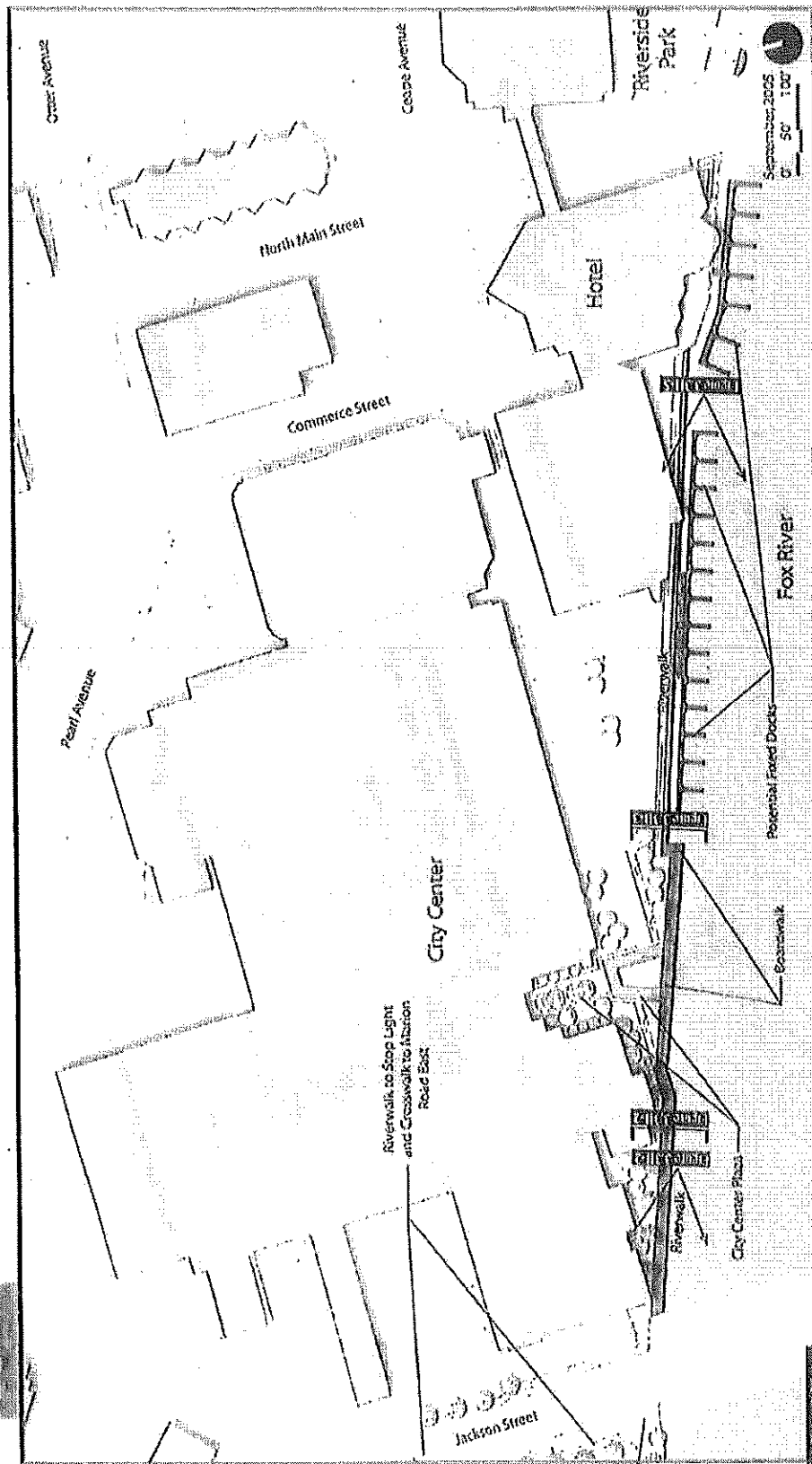


# APPENDIX B

## 3.0 DESIGN CHARACTER



### 3.0 DESIGN CHARACTER





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